Dr M W Stryker

HAMILTON LIFE.

The Weekly Publication of Hamilton College.

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Hamilton Defeats Cornell.

Hamilton's first real intercollegiate debating contest was held in the chapel last Tuesday night, when her team met and defeated the representatives of Cornell University. That this debate should mark the beginning of such relations with Cornell, the college body earnestly desires. The men who composed the team from Ithaca were good debaters and interesting talkers. This makes our victory all the more praiseworthy. The styles employed by the contestants were similar, consequently the audience could closely judge the relative merits of the opposing speakers.

The three men who championed Hamilton should receive the greatest credit for their success. Their comprehensive knowledge of the question showed that their preparation had been thorough and conscientious. The appearance of the men surpassed the expectations of the college.

It was some time after seven-thirty when Dr. Stryker called for order. He announced that the Hon. T. H. Swift of Potsdam, judge of the Court of Claims; S. B. Richardson of Lowville, and F. K. Kernan of Utica would act as judges. Also that the debaters would be given ten minutes on their first appearance and five minutes on their second. The Cornell men spoke in the following order: R. S. Halpin, S. S. Rossman, and R. B. Davis. Sisson opened the debate for Hamilton and was followed by Speh and Toll.

The question was the same as debated with the Philolexian of Columbia: "Resolved, that the interests of civilization demand that force be used, if necessary, to prevent a further extension of Russian boundaries." We upheld the affirmative with Cornell on the defensive.

Sisson opened the debate with a careful statement of the question. He defined civilization, and said that Russia includes nor only the government, but also the people. That Russia as she is today must be considered. He showed that the affirmative was Russia's friend and considered her more stupid than swinish. The people of this vast country are ignorant and uncivilized. The affirmative would debate as follows: First, that Russian expansion is contrary to her own interests; and second, contrary to the interests of civilization in general. Expansion means more taxation and misery for the Russians. The economic condition of the peasants is very bad. These people have an average of nine acres of land per family. Russia has plenty of arable land which if apportioned would give 47 acres per capita. This does not look as though Russia needed to expand. The policy of expansion has doubled the Russian government's expenses in the last ten years. It has pauperized the people and exhausted government resources. This policy of expansion should be stopped.

Halpin opened for the negative and objected to the definition of civilization. Force means war. Russia is backward but has caught the spirit of progress from the western world. She is building extensive railroad systems. In the last few years she has established 140 experimental stations. Within the last three months she has abolished the censorship of the press. Five years after our Rebellion, she freed her slaves without war. Turkey covets Bulgaria and is preparing to invade that country in the spring. For protection Bulgaria desires to transfer her land to Russia, and she should not be stopped. Persia owes Russia $20,000,000 and is unable to pay this debt in money. She proposes to cede to Russia a northern province to cancel her indebtedness. Why should Persia be restrained from paying an honest debt? In Turkestan, the Russian peasants are settling. These people are harrassed by brigands. Should Russia be stopped from protecting her own citizens? Why should not Russia bring law and order to these lands.

Speh said the affirmative had nothing but friendly feelings toward Russia. The czar is an absolute monarch. The only redress of a Russian is to the senate, which is composed of worthless men. The local representative governments are in hands of nobility. Efforts for remedy are suppressed. Fifty-two per cent. of petitions are rejected. Political conditions are bad. They must be remedied, by preventing further expansion. Treaty of Berlin gives precedent. Force not necessarily war. Russia has an army of 2,000,000 men which takes 60 per cent. of her revenues. So long as the present policy exists there is no help for the Russian peasant. Anything that checks the civilization of the Slav is a detriment to the world. Let the world stop Russia by diplomacy. Then the revenues may be turned to internal development of Russia. The first improvements in Persia were due to England. Russia lacks spirit, she can gain initiative by restricting expansion.

Rossman continuing for negative said, that all affirmative had proved was Russia's backwardness. This they conceded. Russian wealth is vast, but undeveloped, because of commercial disadvantages. Russia needs convenient ports that are open all the year and owned by herself. Her present ports are far removed from producing centers. Her ports on the Baltic and Pacific are ice bound five months of the year. Her ports on the Black Sea are hemmed in by England and Turkey. Therefore there are no inducements for development, nor can Russia come into contact with higher civilization. She needs ports for commerce which alone will civilize her. History proves that trade is the greatest factor in civilization. The affirmative says Russia is backward and as a remedy propose to shut her in. What Russia needs is outside influence to enlighten her ignorant people.

Toll, for the affirmative, said that Russia excludes commerce and foreigners. Education measures civilization. Russia has one school for every 200 square miles of territory. Only three per cent.

of Russians can read and write. Only one-fifth of applicants are admitted to secondary schools. Schools are governed tyrannically. Teachers and students are banished without trial because of political views. Russia cannot expand and also remedy these evils. In 1903 she spent $230,000,000 on her army and $40,000,000 for education. Three classes in Russia. Nobility, the official class, are powerful and despotic. The middle class is nearly non-existent. The peasants comprise 86 per cent. of entire population. They are crushed. No freedom. Army service required. They are discouraged. Russia should spend her time on these peasants. Russian religion is largely pagan. Dangerous union of church and state with Czar over all. Habits of submission in the very fibre of the people. For these reason Russia cannot civilize what she acquires.

Davis said, that if the negative could prove that Russia should expand in one place they had won their point. Armenia would be better off under Russian rule. The Armenians are simply Christians under Mohammedan rule. These Christians are controlled by the Sultan who has massacred, ravaged and plundered them. There have been 47,000 Christian homes plundered, 50,000 Christians butchered, and 400,000 left destitute. Turks assent to all this. Affirmative must justify this. Russia is Christian and would stop it. Russia and Armenia have same religion and education, they are of the same race. Turkey tolerates slavery and revels in sensual delights. Russia has freed her slaves, and honors chastity. Russia has substituted peace for war, in her recent acquisitions. Armenia looks to Russia for help. Russia could give Armenia a better civilization. Armenia should belong to Russia.

The debaters spoke five minutes on their second appearances. The same order was followed as in the first round.

Sisson, for the affirmative, admitted the conditions were bad in Armenia, but said that Russia could not better them. Russia freed her slaves but charged them for their freedom. Russia's misgovernment shown by Finland, Poland and late Jewish massacres. Bulgaria and Southern states must act as buffer states. Russia in Constantinople would control the route to India.

Halpin.—All nations have evils. Our race-war in Ohio last week. Fifty per cent. of Russians can read and write. Russian soldiers work in building railroads and canals. Isolation prevents civilization. Sebastopol stopped Russia in the west. Russians are patriotic. A check will make Russia more dangerous. If turned back on herself, will be like China.

Speh.—Russia's expansion in Asia threatens England. Gladstone and Pitt said Russia must be kept out of Turkey to save England. Russia will not protect Armenian churches. France was checked and prospered. Russians lack patriotism; they are leaving Russia now to escape military service. If Russia should enter Manchuria she will establish an inferior civilization.

Rossman.—Russia is not a menace to the world. This shown by Russo-Japanese war. The case of France is not like that of Russia. France has seaports. Russia is handicapped by lack of ports. American commerce has doubled in Manchuria since Russian control. Let Russia gain knowledge and civilization through commerce.

Toll.—Russia has the treaty port Bender Abbos on Persian gulf. When Russia is enlightened she may expand. At present she needs internal renovation. Russia is a despotism. Her people are so impoverished that they are on the verge of ruin. She is not fitted to civilize. What kind of civilization is possible from a country which lacks liberty?

Davis.—The debate narrows down to one issue. Can Russia substitute a better civilization for a poorer one in the border states. Affirmative have not shown why Persia should not pay her debt in land, nor why Turkestan should not be colonized and settled by Russia. Russia can better her people, either by reducing the army or by increasing revenues. Both ways impossible under present conditions. Russia's influence in Asia is for the good.

While waiting for the decision the college livened things up with cheers for the Cornell men. The best of feeling was evidenced throughout. The Cornell men thanked the college heartily for the courteous treatment they had received during their stay. By this time the judges had reached an agreement and Hon. T. H. Swift in giving the decision, said that the committee had unanimously voted Hamilton the victor.

Students in the College and Scientific School of Harvard will hereafter be obliged to pay a fee of $4 each year for the support of Stillman Infirmary.

The Senior Banquet.

On Saturday evening, March 12th, the seniors held their class banquet at the Butterfield in Utica. It was one of those royal good times which only college men who have been together for four long years can have and enjoy. The class of 1904 has had many a pleasant gathering during its course, but every one of the forty men present at the banquet agreed that this last was the best. And for this, thanks be to the committee of arrangements, Hutton, Ehret, and Brandt, who saw that everything from A to Z was done just right.

The fellows were seated at one long table, with Ed. Carr presiding at the intellectual end. Bergner's orchestra made continuous melody throughout the evening, assisted now and then by a little vocal enthusiasm from the table. As a kind of preliminary to the feast, the banqueters were put through the ordeal of a very boisterous flash-light. Finally at 9 o'clock the big head-waiter clapped his hands, and the struggle was on. And what an array there was to "clog the hungry edge of appetite," from "blue points" down through a multitude of things that couldn't speak a word of English, to plain everyday coffee at the end. Between courses, everyone was kept busy collecting signatures on the souvenir menu cards. It was nearly eleven before Toastmaster Carr began to introduce the speakers of the evening. They were as follows: J. L. Strickland, "Don't Know What"; Chas. G. McGaffin, "Something Else"; Dewey J. Carter, "Change"; John O. Collins, "Some Senior Wisdom"; A. L. Evans, "Realities"; W. P. Soper, "Recollections"; Carl Schermerhorn, "Any Old Thing"; C. G. Tennant, "Future of the Class". All the toasts were much enjoyed and it was regretted that time had to be called so soon, in order to catch the last car out for Clinton. The banquet was a great success and the seniors are looking ahead now to another, their last, on the evening following the senior ball.

—At the Y. M. C. A. meeting Wednesday evening, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Day, '05; Vice-president, Schwab, '05; Treasurer, McLean, '06; Secretary, Scoon, '07. These are all good men and should receive the hearty support of the college in keeping the association up to its present standard.

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SECURE THE MEN NOW.

In this last issue of the term Life wishes to impress on each man in college the necessity of pledging visitors for interscholastic day during the Easter recess. It is possible to accomplish more in a five minutes' talk with your man than can ever be done through correspondence. We all desire a large and representative crowd of sub-freshmen here this spring, and we are all responsible for the success or failure of "visitors' day." Approach the man now, get his promise, then plan for his entertainment.

THE CORNELL DEBATE.

We should all realize the significance of the Cornell debate held in the chapel Tuesday night. It means but the beginning of our debating relations with this university. The Cornell men who composed the team, together with the other Cornell men who visited us, expressed the strongest desire that Hamilton send a team to Ithaca next year. Of course this is not official, but the report carried back by these men will largely influence Cornell's debaters in this matter. Our victory clearly demonstrates our ability as debaters, and no better or friendlier rivals can be found than those representing Cornell. Steps should immediately be taken to make, if possible, the Cornell-Hamilton debate a permanent feature of our intercollegiate debating.

NO CHANGE WARRANTED.

A suggestion has been made that the present seniors return to the old custom of holding Campus Day on the afternoon before K. P. Doubtless there would be some advantage in such a change, but the present arrangement appears to be very satisfactory, and if it is, why talk of change? Campus Day seems by its very nature a part of Commencement Week. It is about the only exercise of the week that is jolly and free from the serious and sad. The exercises of the day are more properly functions of the last week that the seniors are on the Hill. And besides, many more parents and friends would be present than at K. P. time; the alumni would be here, and, as important as the rest, the girls. Lastly we must mention the matter of expense. It would cost the fellows considerably more to make Campus Day a separate occasion. Unless there is some very urgent reasons for the proposed change, let things remain as they are.

A MATTER OF POLICY.

The recent Senior Banquet has emphasized a serious problem which calls for careful consideration and decisive action on the part of the college. Wine was not served as part of the dinner. Now, this is a free country. Whether a man shall drink wine with his private dinner may be a matter of friendly argument, but the law does not decide for him. A class dinner is a different question. The class not only may but must decide whether there shall be drinking at its gatherings. The seniors did not include wine on the menu, but they permitted it to be ordered by individuals. This was a mistake. Whether we will or no the college is judged to a great extent by the conduct of her students in Utica. Two or three disorderly fellows on a street car who use vulgar language in the presence of ladies can do much to nullify the results of a hard-fought football season or a victory in debate. We ought to get what benefit we can from such an experience. The moral is that, as a mere matter of policy and regard for the college, no class should permit any liquor to be served at any of their gatherings.

Review Week---A Suggestion.

We are supposed to have one week of reviews before examinations, but it seems this year as if we have been getting more of an examination week than a review week. Without any spirit of criticism we would ask if it is necessary to schedule so many written reviews during this so-called review week. Of course the professors have a perfect right to give us as many of these preliminary tests as they think proper, but when one student has five or six during one week it seems too much. We realize that the purpose of this week is to give a student an opportunity to brush up his term's work, in preparation for examination week. Written reviews, to be sure, furnish a means of doing this, but these cover so much ground that they are practically examinations in themselves and are attended with the same amount of worriment, so that at the end of the week a student feels little like beginning another period which is even worse than the one just passed. Furthermore, a student does not have the chance to ask questions when the whole hour is consumed in writing. It would seem that a student could get more real good out of this review week if there was less writing and more oral work.

Oldest College Graduate.

Wednesday, the 16th of March, was the one hundredth birthday of the oldest living graduate of any college in the United States. The Hon. Austin Smith, of Westfield, N. Y., was born in 1804 and graduated from Hamilton College in 1826. Thus Hamilton claims the honor of having the oldest living college graduate. We may pride ourselves not alone for this, but also because of the influence that Mr. Smith has wielded in past years in public life. Mr. Smith is enjoying fair health and is living a quiet life with his family. Hamilton is proud of him.

Y. M. C. A. Notes.

The communion service of the College Church was held last Sunday afternoon. Dr. Stryker, pastor of the church, conducted the service, which was simple and impressive. Three new communicants were received by letter of dismissal from their home churches. Weber, '05, and McLean, '06, were installed as regular elders of the church. On Friday evening preceding the communion the usual preparatory service was held. Dr. Stryker's talk was exceptionally helpful and searching.

Webster, '02, now at Union Seminary, wrote to the College urging as many fellows as possible to attend the Seminary Conference at New York. Unfortunately it comes during exam. week.

The Association held its annual meeting on Wednesday evening in Silliman Hall, at which the reports were heard from the chairmen of the respective committees and the election of officers took place.

Junior's Last Chapel.

The juniors said their last sad farewell this week to Wednesday noon chapel. The occasion was marked by the usual gloomy faces and tear-wet eyes. The funeral oration was given by Beach, and a masterly effort it was. The only one who did not seem to feel badly over this last exercise was Professor White, who smiled with joy during the entire performance, and never deigned to say one kind word of farewell. Though the powers that be were silent the other powers were not, and silence on one side was neutralized by noise and celebration on the other.

Last Meeting of the Whist Club.

The Junior Whist Club held its final meeting last Thursday night. The Sigs and Chi Psi's joined forces, as the Chi Psi delegation did not feel himself large enough to undertake the job alone. It is unnecessary to say that every man had a good time, for that goes without saying. Of course the evening would not have been complete without Gibbons so that gentleman was invited to bring himself and his artillery to the Sig hall, After the usual difficulty in mastering the details the gun was loaded and the picture taken. The event this time was attended with fewer casualties than usual. One man only was wounded, his injury resulting from a flying piece of tin from the machine. The club this year has been unusually well behaved and there was only one man who had been found guilty of any misdemeanor. This man was Frank Beach. He was accused of having attempted to smoke. No witnesses could be found to appear against the man, but he was unable to hide the tell-tale expression which always appears on a man's face after his first experience with the weed. So he was found guilty, but his punishment has been delayed until next term. The club decided to close its happy career with a banquet in Utica next term.

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Mails Open—From Utica, 9:00 a. m., 1.00 p. m., 5:40 p. m. From Rome, 9:00 a. m., 5:30 p. m. From South, 11:40 a. m., 6:30 p. m.

Mails Close—For Utica, 7:30 a. m., 11:00 a. m., 6:00 p. m. For Rome, 11:00 a. m., 6:00 p. m. For South, 8:15 a. m., 12:25 p. m.

Sunday mail open from 12:00 to 1:00 p. m. Sunday mail closes at 5:20 p. m.

Mail leaves the Hill at the convenience of the Carrier, and comes up after the Carrier gets down.

F. E. Payne, P. M.

Life is entered at the Clinton Post Office as second-class matter.

New York, Ontario & Western R. R.

Trains leave Clinton for Utica, 7:50 a. m., 11:20 a. m., 2:40 p. m., 6:25 p. m. For Rome, 11:30 a. m., 6:30 p. m. For South, 8:30 a. m., 12:40 p. m., 5:24 p. m., 11:50 p. m.

Trains arrive at Clinton from Utica, 8:30 a. m., 12:40 p. m., 5:24 p. m., 11:50 p. m. From Rome, 8:20 a. m., 5:10 p. m. From South, 7:50 a. m., 11:20 a. m. 2:40 p. m., 6:25 p. m.

Local Notes.

—Lee, '99. was present at the Cornell debate.

—The book-store has just received a new stock of class banners.

—S. L. Bacon, of Leland Stanford University, visited on the Hill last week.

—Rev. A. J. Waugh, of the class of '72, was on the Hill for the Cornell debate.

—The Senior Club was entertained at the Alpha Delta Phi Hall Monday evening.

—The contract, under which Turner acts as our football coach next fall, has been signed.

—Rynd, '07, has been obliged to leave college for the term. He will return after the vacation.

—About one-fourth of the college has over-cut this term. In most every case illness has been the cause.

—Nellis has been elected treasurer of the sophomore class to fill the vacancy caused by Hosmer leaving college.

—Sherman, '04, has been suffering from poisoning in his arm. The injury was received during the Colgate game.

—Sherman, '06, was confined to his home last week with a badly bruised knee, resulting from a fall in the Colgate game.

—One of the most pleasing features of the new dormitory is that each suite is furnished with a fire-place in the main or study room. These fire-places are constructed with fire brick and each one is different.

—LeMunyan when questioned as to the finest thing in "The Rape of the Lock," replies: "The description of the poker game."

—The prospects for a large class for 1908 are extremely favorable. There are more men registered now than ever before at this time of the year.

—There has been a mail box placed in the south entrance of North. The fellows are now wondering when the collections from it will be made.

—The lighting plant which has just been installed in Carnegie Hall cost $1000. It is to be hoped that it will be more successful in its work than the one now used in the Gym.

—The "Butinsky" Club was entertained by L. J. Ehret on Wednesday evening in his room. All the members were present, and the time passed pleasantly in story-telling, card-playing, and consuming a cold lunch. The latter was furnished by the "Peninsky" who was kindly aided by the "Stuhlinsky." The yell which the club gave upon its departure is enough to make even "Bob" Root smile.

—Dr. Root is proud of his '07 math. sharks. In a written exercise they had in solving a general triangle a few days ago the class as a whole did the best all-round work he ever received. Out of 43 papers 35 were perfect, and of the eight incorrect only one was bad. This makes the percentage of correct papers 82, while the present sophomore class last year on the same cards were credited with a percentage of 47.

—On Friday last the All-collegiate basket-ball team played the 44th Separate Co. of Utica. Hamilton furnished four men for the team, S. Sherman, Bramley, LeMunyan and Mann. The college men were outplayed during the first half. During the second, however, the militia men were outplayed at every point. Goldbas of Utica, was the star for the All-collegiates. The score, in favor of the 44th, was 30—12.

Among the Colleges.

This week Columbia enlarged herself by the addition of a College of Pharmacy.

The Senior Class of Princeton is considering the advisability of erecting a steel grand stand to cost $6,000.

The annual Columbia show was given every night during the past week. It was very successful and was well attended.

The University of Virginia boasts of having the oldest existing Y. M. C. A. in the world. Nothing is said as to its activity.

The report comes from the different colleges that the senior classes are receiving large mails. The Teachers' Agencies are doing their annual advertising.

The students of New York University are anxious that the college library should be opened evenings. The only objection seems to be that it would add much to the annual expense.

There is much discussion at Yale about reviving the freshmen societies. It is urged that they would stimulate class spirit and unity. The faculty are, of course, opposed to the idea.

The Rhode Island Women's Suffrage Association has offered an annual prize of $25 to the Woman's College of Brown University for the student who writes the best essay on woman suffrage.

The University of Minnesota will send a team to compete for the annual intercollegiate gymnastic championship at New York University on March 25. This will be their first appearance in the east.

A company of Yale scientific students, one hundred strong, will attend the World's Fair at St. Louis next June. They will be under the command of Captain A. S. Smoke, United States Instructor in military tactics.

Several of the eastern universities have combined to form a joint class in mining for the coming summer. They will lease a mine in the west and do all the work themselves. In this manner they will gain much practical experience.

The Harvard basket ball team has been dropped from the Intercollegiate Basket-ball League because it forfeited the Cornell and Yale games. The team was also disciplined by the athletic committee of Harvard for the same offense.

Teachers! Teachers!

Teachers wishing to prepare for Examination should write immediately for our Teachers' Interstate Examination Course, as taught by mail. The Course is endorsed by many leading educators, and every progressive teacher who wishes to advance in their profession should begin work immediately. Address nearest office, with stamp, for reply.

American Teachers' Association,

174 Randolph Building, Memphis, Tenn. 1423 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

New York University will have at the St. Louis Exposition models of the three sites of the university. Every building will be represented just as they appear today, with the addition of three buildings which the university expects in the near future.

"Ben-Hur" in Utica.

Klaw and Erlanger's fine production of "Ben-Hur," presented by the original company, with William Farnum, the brilliant young actor-athlete, in the title role, will be presented at the Majestic Theatre in Utica for one week, beginning Monday, March 21st. This is the most successful dramatic production ever made. Presented at the Broadway Theatre in New York in November, 1899, it remained one entire season at this house, and several weeks of the next, and since that time has been touring the principal cities, making the longest runs and playing to the largest receipts on record.

"Ben-Hur" will be presented at the Majestic Theatre in Utica exactly as originally staged at the Broadway Theatre in New York, with all the scenery, mechanical effects and costumes in their entirety. The chariot race, with its startling realism, will be seen in every detail, for no change has been made in the presentation of "Ben-Hur" since its premiere. The standard of the company has been maintained and the organization has been twice supplied with an entirely new set of scenery and costumes, so that, notwithstanding it is nearly five years since the production was first made, it is in every respect equal today to the great merits of its first season. All those who see it in Utica can, therefore, expect a first-class performance in every way. Klaw and Erlanger have never made the mistake of deteriorating their successes after the first season.

The company numbers over 250 people. Eight baggage cars are required to transport the scenery and mechanical effects and the chariot race apparatus, and two additional cars for the race horses and the trained camels. In respect to magnitude of production and company, "Ben-Hur" is the largest dramatic organization that has ever toured the country. During its stay at the Majestic Theatre, special arrangements will be made for the accommodation of people living in places suburban to Utica, and orders for seats may be sent by mail accompanied by remittance. Special railroad accommodations will also be provided.

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